IT'S A BRAND NEW COLLAR, QUESS... JUST FOR YOU.
THAT...
WAS MY FIRST....
薔薇嬢のキス
硝音あや
ROSE PRINCESS...!
IT'S YAKOH... YOU HAVE TO HELP HIM!

Punishment 29 keep the faith?

KISS OF ROSE PRINCESS

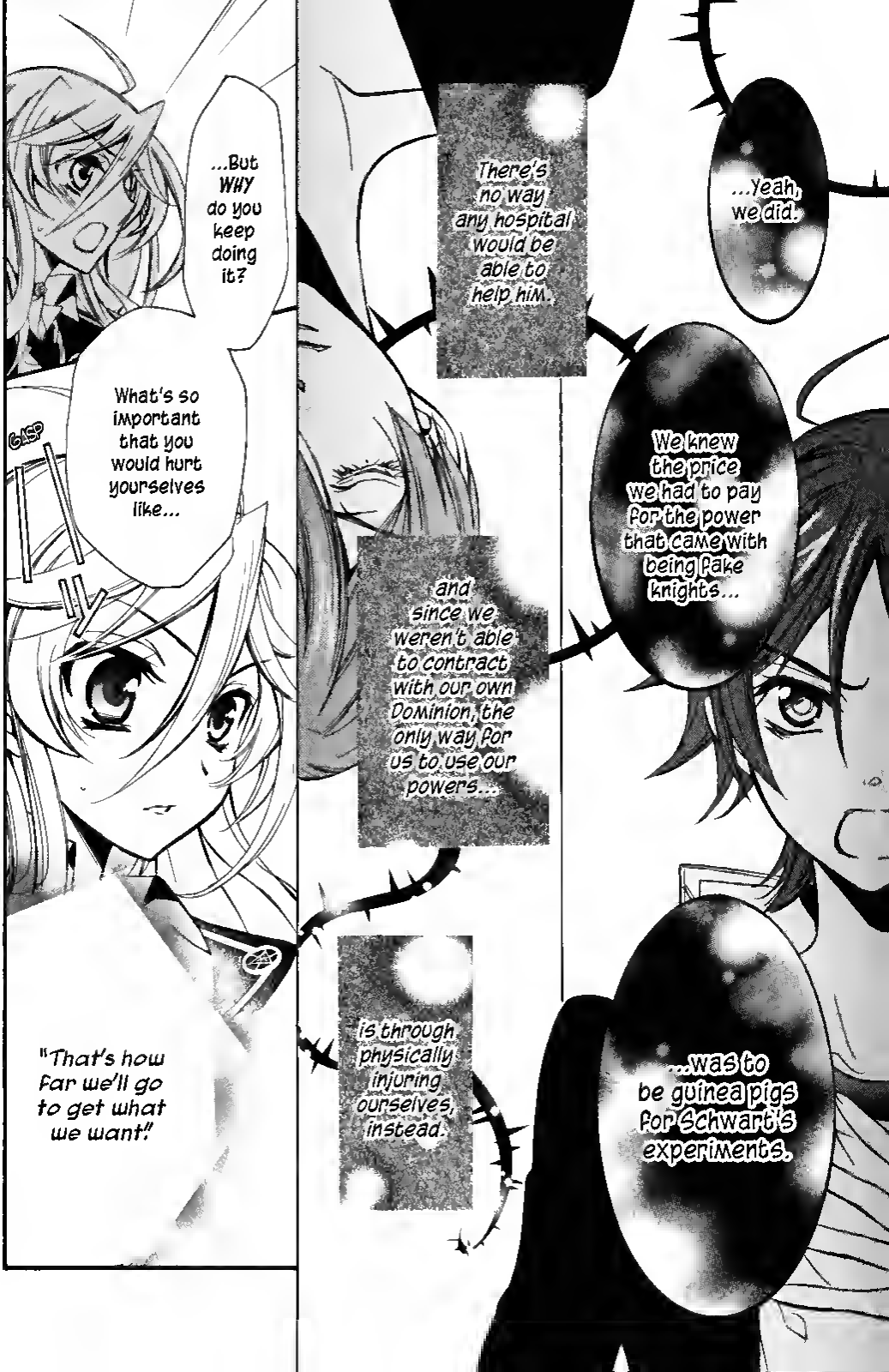
...AT LONG LAST, THE TIME HAS COME...!
THE DEVIL WILL FINALLY BE RELEASED FROM THAT VILE SEAL,
OUR PEOPLES' FONDEST WISH, FULFILLED .....
AND AT LONG LAST, I WILL RECLAIM MY LOST LOVE...!
My dear, sweet Anis.
"ROSE..."
When will you finally understand?

"WHAT PURE CONTRADICTION!"
Oh reiner widerspruch!
"NOW, COME! DESTROY IT ALL!"
Aw, y'know how kids are. They love messin' with songs.
fragile and ephemeral.
Oh, don't add those strange lines. You'll ruin its artistic value.
This world is so overcome with garbage,

Once everything is lost to you, then will you finally understand?

He won't move, he's not responding to anything I do... Nothing. All he does is sleep.
COME ON...! YOU'D KNOW WHERE SCHWARTZ...
WHERE OUR CREATOR IS, RIGHT!? PLEASE! YOU GOTTA TELL ME WHERE I CAN FIND HIM!
TELL ME YOU KNOW, ROSE PRINCESS !!
But...
I BARELY EVEN KNOW MY DAD, MUCH LESS WHERE HE IS NOW.
But I DON'T know where he is...
SHIP!
I suggest you control yourself, "Orange Rose"...

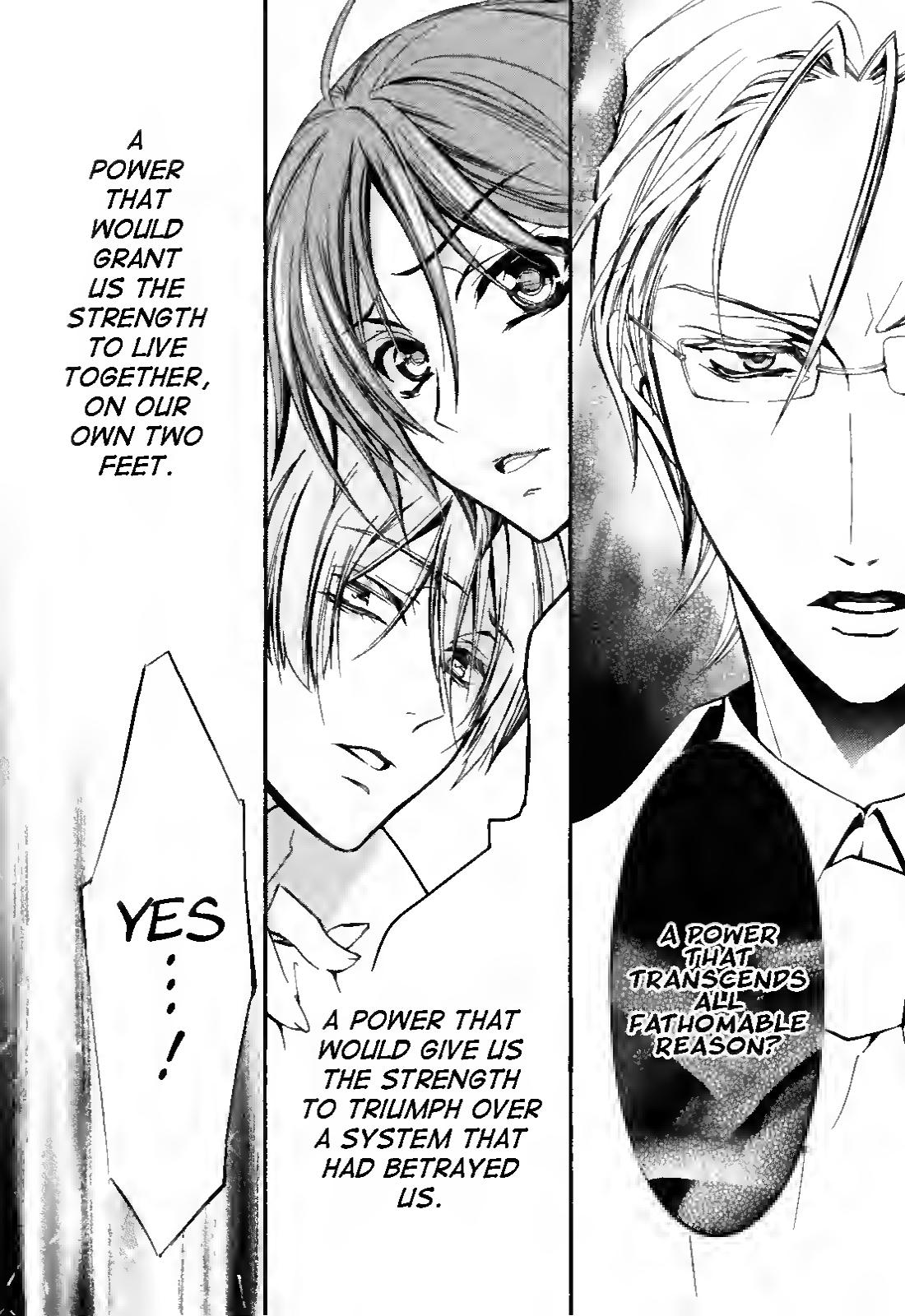
It's a fact that Lady Anis and Mr. Schwartz are blood relatives...
But need I remind you...
As of now, they are also sworn enemies.
How dare you even *assume* to manipulate their relation as father and daughter to play to your own advantage!
Tell me, *FAKE*... You are aware of the saying, "You have only yourself to blame," are you not?
I dare say I'M correct in assuming you were made fairly aware of the terms of your contract prior to your agreement.
!
グッ
CLENCH


...But WHY do you keep doing it?
What's so important that you would hurt yourselves like...
GASP
"That's how far we'll go to get what we want!"
There's no way any hospital would be able to help him.
...Yeah, we did.
We knew the price we had to pay for the power that came with being Fake knights...
and since we weren't able to contract with our own Dominion, the only way for us to use our powers...
is through physically injuring ourselves, instead.
...was to be guinea pigs for Schwart's experiments.

SO... WHAT DOES IDEL WANT...?
...And it's all because of me...
Over time, Yakoh's only gotten sicker and sicker...
There's something you have to understand about him ..
WE FIRST MET...
...AT AN ORPHANAGE. A PLACE FOR KIDS WITH NO ONE ELSE TO TURN TO.
I'D BEEN PRETTY SICKLY EVER SINCE BIRTH...
It'll be alright, Idel.
Once we get older, we'll save up lots of money, and then we'll be able to afford your operation, I promise.
YAKOH WAS ALWAYS SO BRIGHT AND CHEERFUL. HE WAS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER KEPT ME FROM LOSING ALL HOPE.
Besides, what should I need two of these for anyway, if I could give one to you?
AND THEN, ONE DAY...

IT WAS LIKE SOME KIND OF MIRACLE.
Hey, kids!
You ever dream about getting into showbiz?
WE USED THE MONEY WE RECEIVED AS A CONTRACT BONUS FROM THE TALENT AGENCY TO COVER THE MEDICAL EXPENSES FROM THE SURGERY.
You hear that, Idel?
This is great! Now you can be totally healthy!
The tests say you're both compatible. We can transplant whenever you're ready.
FOR A WHILE, IT SEEMED LIKE EVERYTHING WORKED OUT GREAT. FOR A WHILE, ANYWAY.
STUMBLE
Stop, stop! You! Turn again.
...Yakoh, are you-?
Sorry... I think I need a break...
GASP
BUT THEN YAKOH STARTED GETTING WEAKER AND WEAKER. EVENTUALLY IT GOT TO THE POINT WHERE HE COULDN'T MOVE FROM HIS BED IN THE MORNINGS.

IS IT POWER THAT YOU WANT, THEN?
KLAK
Malpractice? Don't be ridiculous. The surgery was a success!
Look, your debut date's already set in stone. There's nothing I can do to change that.
If he's come down with something, then you tell him I'm telling him he needs to get over it, quick.
EVERYONE I TURNED TO FOR HELP ONLY TURNED A DEAF EAR TO ME.
THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK. AND THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.
THAT'S WHEN I LOST ALL HOPE.
But Yakoh...
Any more of this, and he'll...!


A POWER THAT WOULD GRANT US THE STRENGTH TO LIVE TOGETHER, ON OUR OWN TWO FEET.
YES....!
A POWER THAT WOULD GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO TRIUMPH OVER A SYSTEM THAT HAD BETRAYED US.
A POWER THAT TRANSCENDS ALL FATHOMABLE REASON?

At first,
we figured as long as we were able to enter a contract with the Fake Dominion,
our powers would stabilize and everything would work out fine from there...
Only...
That didn't happen. For some reason, we couldn't contract with her...
"FAILURES...."
Hell, we were even failures as test subjects.
By that point, we would have been better off if we'd just given up on attaining the power of the Fake Knights.
Even Schwartz told us it was in our best interests.
But in the end...
We... I wasn't chosen.
And that's when Yakoh's illness started eating away at him again...

Not with these things. Not anymore...
To take a step further in becoming "real" Knights.
That's why you said you were collecting the Arcana Cards...
...So...
!
FWISSH!
I might as well throw them away for all the good they did!
If Yakoh never opened his eyes again, I don't know what I'd do...
KREAK...

Without Yakoh, I can't live anymore...
CLAK
The Lime Rose...
IDEL...!
CLENCH

Itsushi-sensei!?
The Lime Rose's powers have spiraled out of his control, that's the reason for his present state.
Naruru
Out of control...?
Right. His powers have gotten so strong, they can't even be classified on an olfactory scale, or rather, through scents. Instead, they've degraded to the point where they activate on the ionic level.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THEY'RE TOO STRONG?
LAST I CHECKED, WEREN'T LIME'S POWERS JUST WAY TOO WEAK?
Keep talkin', pretty boy. You're only gonna tick me off even more..!
To borrow Anis-kun's vocabulary, you might say, "ULTRA-MEGA SMELLS."
or something like that

That must be what caused them to go berserk, then...
Maybe the problem was that his body was too weak to process his immense powers...
...And he wasn't able to utilize them to their full potential, so they only *seemed* weak...
.....
Schwartz...
...assumed something like this would happen.
But there's more.
Lime's powers would go berserk eventually— it was only a matter of time, and he knew it.
He's working his magic behind the scenes even as we speak,
manipulating Lime's now out-of-control powers in tandem with a specially-constructed "barrier" to put the entire city into a deep, unwakeable sleep.

Schwartz's plan is to use the barrier to draw the Arcana Cards out of hiding and collect them for himself.
His ultimate objective...
Is to use the Arcana Cards to completely annihilate the Devil's Seal.
AND ONCE HE DOES...
A BARRIER
!?
He... He's USING Yakoh...!?

HE PLANS ON HOUSING THE POWERS OF THE DEMON LORD HIMSELF WITHIN THE GRAY ROSE.
The way you speak,
one might almost suspect you of hearing it directly from the source...
.....
Itsushi-sensei.
You're right.

I heard it all from Schwartz himself.
To tell the truth, I was hoping I'd never have to tell you this, but...
YOU WHA...!?

DOES HE THINK THAT'S SOME KIND OF DEEP, DARK SECRET?!
Ah...
I WAS SCHWARTZ'S APPRENTICE...!!
WHEN WE WERE BOTH STILL IN THE ASSOCIATION, I...
SLUMP
But to be honest, I was hoping to do just the opposite.
I got it into my head that if I could just talk it out with him, maybe I could convince him to put a stop to his plan...
TNK
Sensei...
TMP
Okay-y-y... Now I'm starting to think maybe it WAS that bad....
He actually came to me wanting to know if I would give him a hand with it, too..
MUTTER
He went ahead and yanked me around a bit too, if you want to call it that
Oh, my glasses... I forgot he ripped them off my face..
MUTTER

SEIRAN-KUN...!
I was so afraid you'd gone away and I'd never see you again...!
Itsushi-sensei, I'M so glad...!
And right now...
Pat
Pat
...I know.
But what's done is in the past.

Rose Princess, Anis-kun...
And the rest of you Rhode Knights...
My focus is on doing whatever I can to help you.
CRASH
ガラ
!!
IDEL !?
BELIEVE IN THE BONDS WE SHARE

I'll MAKE him wake Yakoh up if I have to...!
Idel!
I'm gonna go have a talk with Schwartz...
Don't you DARE stop me!
I never said I was stopping you!
I'm going with you.

You'll never make it to him in one piece in that shape.
And being the Rose Princess and all, I can't exactly sit around and let him steal my own Arcana Cards out from underneath me, can I?
BUT WHAT I DO KNOW...
...IS THAT IT FEELS LIKE ALL WE'RE DOING IS DANCING TO THE TUNE SET BY A BUNCH OF ADULTS...
I DON'T KNOW IF THE CHOICES IDEL AND YAKOH MADE WERE RIGHT OR WRONG.
AND I DON'T KNOW IF WHAT PAPA DID TO THEM WAS RIGHT OR WRONG.
Besides,
THAT'S A CALL I CAN'T MAKE.

I'm sick and tired of letting Papa get away with whatever he wants.
AND NOTHING MAKES ME MADDER THAN THAT!
TO BE BRUTALLY HONEST,
MY HEAD'S ABOUT READY TO EXPLODE FROM ALL THIS...
"FIRST" AND "KISS" STUFF AS IS...
BUT
Anis...
AFTER SEEING A CERTAIN COCKY, INSUFFERABLE KNOW-IT ALL...

AND KNOWING ONE OF THE NICEST PEOPLE I'VE EVER MET MIGHT NEVER OPEN HIS EYES AGAIN...
...DRAGGING HIS WAY THROUGH THE POURING RAIN...
IF IT MEANS I CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT,
AND I'M SCREAMING IT AS LOUD AS I CAN
!!!
I'LL BE YOUR ROSE PRINCESS.

What th' hell are you-
Anis...?
YOU SAY IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE "FAKES" AND "FAILURES," AND THINGS LIKE THAT...
Don't be afraid, Idel.
BUT I DON'T WANT YOU TO GIVE UP JUST BECAUSE YOU THINK THOSE ARE THE BRANDS YOU'VE BEEN LABELED WITH.
—FEEL.

I SWEAR YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO HURT YOURSELF AGAIN.
FROM NOW ON,

OUR FEELINGS WILL JOIN AS ONE,
GLOW...
A ROSE.....
AND I TRANSFORM INTO TIES THAT BIND US.

SHING
キラ
AN ORANGE……
Ooh
キラ
SPARKLE
SPARKLE...
キラ
CARD!!
...This...
This is a "Provisional Contract"……!
!

A Provi-
sional
contract
.....
In the event that four true Knights aren't available or in other similar scenarios,
it's a means to temporarily promote a person to the position of Rhode Knight to fill the vacancy.
It's ancient contractual sorcery...
That can't be right...
It may be only a temporary contract... But that doesn't change the fact that there can only be four knights entered into a contract with the acting dominion at one time...
With all four knights present and accounted for, by no practical logic should that have been feasible...
.....

That was incredible, Anis-sama!
OH... UH, WAS IT?
Er... Well, what can I say? Heat of the moment...
Kinda.
glaze
Anis, you...
GET
It's 'cause we were on the same page. You wanted to save one of your "buds," and so did I—
That's what connected us.

A provisional contract operates under the exact opposite conditions as a Formal Knight's awakening.
For instance, let's say Idel-kun uses his powers as a Knight now that he's contracted under you—
In that case, he would use the equivalent of several tens of times the amount of your blood it would take for Kaede-kun to use to activate his abilities.
Anis-kun, listen to me! You have to be very, very careful about using that!
...A-
Be careful? What for?
FLIP FLIP
GULP-
Anis... Are you sure you're okay with this...?
It doesn't really matter whether I'm okay or not at this point...
SKUFF
TENS OF TIMES? THAT SOUNDS LIKE IT COULD BE ONE HECK OF A PROBLEM...
...G... Got it.

But if you won't quit, then neither will I!
...Thanks.
...Lady Anis.
...I CAN TRY, SURE.
JUST TRY NOT TO GO HOG-WILD, ALRIGHT?
AW, COME ON!
SIGH

Am I correct in assuming...
...a "no-holds barred" approach against Mister Schwartz is in order?
Mmhm!
STAND
Doesn't matter what it takes, just so long as we stop him.
And as it so happens,
I've got a whole bunch of pent-up rage stored up, and I'm hurting for a target to direct it at.
GLARE
FWIP
.....
SLEEP TIGHT...

WE'LL FIND A WAY TO BRING YOUR MORNING BACK IN NO TIME AT ALL. I PROMISE.
CHU♥
SHWIP...

WHITE ROSE
We, the Rose Knights four……
BLACK ROSE
BLUE ROSE
Pledge to you our absolute servitude……
RED ROSE
Until the day our souls expire.

ROSE PRINCESS,
WE AWAIT YOUR ORDERS.

FOLLOW MY LEAD!
END

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Barajou no Kiss

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Double-translation can have an unintentional effect of skewing the meaning of the original script, and assumes the first translation is flawless, which sometimes it isn't. (Hard to believe, right? I know.)